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Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 15718 281016Z
ACTION DOTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 FAA-00 OES-07 SS-15 /053 W
----------088882 290432Z /23
R 280857Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3838
INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS MOSCOW 15718

DEPT PASS DOT FOR RAMUNDO

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: TBIO ETRN US UR
SUBJECT: US-USSR TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT: AVIATION MEDICINE
(05.0408)

REFS: (A) STATE 240934 (B) MOSCOW 11985

1. USDEL HEADED BY DR. STANLEY MOLLER CALLED AT
EMBASSY OCTOBER 20 TO REPORT ON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION
OF VISIT TO MOSCOW, RIGA, LENINGRAD AND ALMA ATA
OCTOBER 11-21. DEL INDICATED VISIT HAD BEEN WELL
ARRANGED, THE SOVIETS ENTIRELY FORTHCOMING, AND
THAT ALL GOALS FOR THE TRIP HAD BEEN MET.

2. DEL VISITED AVIATION MEDICINE RESEARCH AND
SCREENING FACILITIES IN EACH CITY, AND SAW IN OPERATION
EXTENSIVE SYSTEM OF CREW MEMBER HEALTH EXAMINATIONS.
SOVIET STANDARDS INCLUDE MANDATORY 48 HOUR PRE-FLIGHT
NO-DRINKING REGIME; CHECK-UP OF CREW MEMBERS BEFORE
EACH FLIGHT AND QUARTERLY COMPLETE HEALTH EXAMINATIONS.
INTERESTINGLY, SOVIETS APPLY SIMILAR RIGOROUS STANDARDS
TO AIRPORT FLIGHT CONTROLLERS.

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EM IN ALMA-ATA, DEL WAS PERMITTED TO BOARD TU-144
SUPERSONIC TRANSPORT WHICH SOVS ANNOUNCED WOULD ENTER
PASSENGER SERVICE NOVEMBER 1. NO DIRECT REFERENCES
WERE MADE TO SPECIFIC HEALTH PROBLEMS RELATED TO SUPER-
SONIC FLIGHT DURING DISCUSSIONS THERE. HOWEVER, IN
INFORMAL TALKS SOVS EXPRESSED HIGH INTEREST IN
PASSENGER/CREW HEALTH PROBLEMS RELATED TO VIBRATIONS,

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THUS LENDING SUPPORT TO VIEW DELAYED ENTRY OF
TU-144 INTO PASSENGER SERVICE IS AT LEAST IN PART
CONNECTED TO SEVERE VIBRATIONS EXPERIENCED BY
AIRCRAFT IN FLIGHT.

4. USDEL INDICATED FUTURE PLANS CALL FOR
EXCHANGES DURING COMING YEAR OF ACCIDENT-RELATED
BIOPSY MATERIAL AND COMPUTER ANALYSIS BY SOVIETS
OF U.S. BLACK-BOX TAPES FOR MEASUREMENT OF
PSYCHOLOGICAL STRESS IN VOICE TRANSMISSIONS IMMEDIATELY
PRIOR TO ACCIDENTS.

5. COMMENT: THE SOVIETS ARE OBVIOUSLY MAKING AN
EXTENSIVE INVESTMENT IN CIVIL AIR MEDICINE.
US SHOULD STAND TO BENEFIT THROUGH FURTHER CLOSE
RELATIONS IN THIS AREA. THE EMBASSY WARMLY ENDORSES
CONTINUATION OF THE COOPERATION ACTIVITY AT CURRENT
LEVELS.
TOON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRANSPORTATION, AGREEMENTS, AVIATION, HEALTH, SCIENTIFIC VISITS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW15718
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Office: ACTION DOTE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 240934, 77 MOSCOW 11985
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 755894
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-USSR TRANSPORTATION AGREEMENT: AVIATION MEDICINE (05.0408)
TAGS: TBIO, ETRN, US, UR, (MOLLER, STANLEY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c5a2c924-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009